



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
2300 E STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20372-5300

IN REPLY REFER TO

BUMEDINST 1520.37A
BUMED-00DC
10 Jun 97

BUMED INSTRUCTION 1520.37A

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
To: Ships and Stations Having Dental Personnel

Subj: NAVY DENTAL OFFICER PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Encl: (1) Navy Dental Officer Education Program Change Proposal

1. Purpose. To assign responsibility for developing and approving Navy-sponsored dental officer professional education programs and to establish a Navy Dental Officer Professional Education Council (DOPEC). This is a complete revision and must be read in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. BUMEDINST 1520.37.

3. Background

a. The Secretary of the Navy and senior Navy line leadership have consistently supported the Surgeon General's and the Chief, Navy Dental Corps' belief that strong professional educational programs are required to obtain new knowledge and maintain the skills of our people. To ensure resources are maximized for appropriate, timely, and high quality Navy dental educational programs, a coordinated policy development and decision-making process must include students, educators, and resource sponsors.

b. Maintaining and improving the quality of advanced dental education is the primary aim of the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (CDA/ADA). The CDA/ADA has a voluntary, but highly recognized and widely used process of accreditation of advanced specialty programs. The process of accreditation assures students, specialty boards, and the public that accredited programs comply with published community standards. The CDA/ADA offers accreditation to any institution offering acceptable programs in any of the recognized specialties of dental practice (dental public health, endodontics, oral pathology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, and prosthodontics). The Bureau of Medicine and Surgery's (BUMED) policy is to meet or exceed CDA/ADA accreditation standards.

4. Responsibilities

a. Chief, BUMED serves as claimant and final approving authority for all Navy Medical Department professional education programs.

b. The Chief, Navy Dental Corps is the principal advisor to the Chief, BUMED for all BUMED-sponsored dental educational programs. This officer ensures programs are structured and funded to support the Department of the Navy's dental health care requirements thereby maximizing personnel and unit readiness. Chief, Navy Dental Corps is responsible for ensuring a continuing source of Navy dental officers trained by specialty to the requirements defined by the current Medical Department manning plan.

c. The Director of the Naval Dental School (NDS), National Naval Dental Center, Bethesda is the permanent chairperson of the DOPEC and is responsible for the oversight of course and curriculum development for all BUMED dental officer professional education programs. The director additionally serves as the Chief, BUMED's Specialty Leader for Dental Officer Professional Education.

d. The Head, Dental Corps Education Programs, Naval School of Health Sciences (NSHS-OD) serves as outservice training program manager and point of contact for all dental officers applying for, participating in, or requesting information about any professional training program available to Navy dental officers; serves as the recorder for the annual Dental Corps Duty Under Instruction Selection Board.

e. Commanding officers of naval dental clinics sponsoring dental education programs must ensure all programs conducted within their commands comply with current BUMED and CDA/ADA directives, policies, and requirements. Dental treatment facilities must comply with institutional requirements established by the CDA/ADA. Command-sponsored inservice training, limited to local area attendance only, is not covered in this instruction.

f. Directors of medical education at BUMED teaching hospitals serve as chairpersons of their facility's graduate medical education committee. These officers are directly responsible to their commanders or commanding officers for ensuring all institutional requirements of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and the CDA/ADA are maintained, and for monitoring all aspects of graduate dental education programs they sponsor.

g. Dental education program directors are accountable for the integrity of their individual programs and for maintaining compliance with ACGME, BUMED, and CDA/ADA requirements as appropriate. Following CDA/ADA policy, each program director is responsible for defining, in writing, and implementing the goals and objectives of the program, and for assisting with the

selection, evaluation, and continuation of residents. Proposals for dental education program changes must be submitted to the DOPEC as well as the CDA/ADA before approval and implementation (enclosure (1)). Program directors are expected to achieve and maintain an "approved" accreditation status by the CDA/ADA.

h. Participants in Navy Dental Officer Education Programs Development. Proposals for dental education program changes are encouraged by all involved in any aspect of Navy dental officer professional education. Proposals should be submitted to the Chairperson, Dental Officer Professional Education Council, Naval Dental School, National Naval Dental Center, 8901 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD 20889-5602, using the format in enclosure (1).

5. DOPEC. This council reports to the Chief, Navy Dental Corps and serves as the principal forum for developing changes to policy or guidelines governing Navy dental officer professional education programs. These programs include: advanced education in general dentistry programs, general practice residencies in dentistry, dental graduate programs, dental postgraduate programs, dental advanced clinical programs, dental postgraduate fellowship programs, or any dental continuing education course, workshop, or program presented for other than local command participants as inservice training.

a. Permanent Membership

(1) Director of the Naval Dental School, National Naval Dental Center, Bethesda (chairperson).

(2) Head, Dental Corps Education Programs (NSHS-OD).

(3) Deputy Chief, Dental Corps (MED-00DCB).

(4) Director, Dental Health Care Planning Division (MED-62).

(5) Assistant for Dental Officer Professional Development (MED-00DCB1).

(6) Chair, Education Resources Department (NDS-11) (Recorder).

b. Permanently Assigned Leaders

(1) All BUMED dental specialty leaders.

(2) All dental education program directors.

(3) Dental Corps assignment officers (PERS-4415G/H).

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c. DOPEC Functions

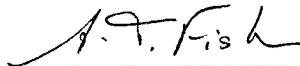
(1) Monitors and coordinates action to implement those aspects of the Dental Corps' strategic plan that address dental officer professional education to maximize resources, and ensure appropriateness and quality of all Navy-sponsored courses of instruction.

(2) Initiates, reviews, and evaluates dental officer professional education policy proposals, including all proposals to establish, disestablish, or modify the curriculum or operational conduct of any Navy dental education program.

(3) Coordinates dental education policy proposals with appropriate naval dental center and naval hospital commanding officers, BUMED specialty leaders, and staff dental officers assigned to major operational commands.

(4) Monitors actions taken to implement approved DOPEC recommendations.

(5) Meets quarterly and forwards minutes of such meetings to the Chief, Navy Dental Corps.


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Deputy

Available from:
<http://support1.med.navy.mil/bumed/instruct/external/external.htm>

NAVY DENTAL OFFICER EDUCATION PROGRAM CHANGE PROPOSAL

1. Program: Site:
2. Point of Contact: Date:
3. Proposal: (Short title for this proposal.)
4. Issue: (Why is this recommended as an issue?)
5. Problems: (What are the reasons a change is proposed?)
6. Background: (What is the historical context?)
7. Alternatives Considered: (How could this issue be addressed?) For each, include the positive and negative impacts on:
 - a. Requirements (billets, manpower, funds).
 - b. Service needs.
 - c. Other training programs.
 - d. Current and future trainees.
 - e. Detailing process.
 - f. Accreditation.
 - g. Inservice and outservice programs.
 - h. Faculty profile requirements.
8. Action Recommended: (Which alternative should be chosen and why?)
9. Implementation Plan: (What is the proposed plan of action and milestones?)

Signature